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09/698,497	10/27/2000	Ahmadreza Rofougaran	40882/CAG/B600	3845

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EXAMINER

MILORD, MARCEAU

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2685

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/698,497

Applicant(s)

ROFOUGARAN ET AL.

Examiner

Marceau Milord

Art Unit

2685

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 October 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hilbert (US Patent No 5983082) in view of Ciccarelli et al. (US Patent No 6175279 B 1) and Siwiak et al (US Patent No 5276912).

Regarding claim 1, Hilbert discloses a circuit (fig. 8), comprising: a logic circuit (420 of fig. 8) having a power input and a power return; a capacitor (805 or 806 of fig. 8; col. 11, line 21- col. 12, line 13); a first resistor (814 of fig. 8) having a first end coupled to the power input and a second end to couple to a power source (col. 12, lines 26 -32); and a second resistor (815 of fig. 8) having a first end coupled to the power return and a second end to couple to a power source return ( col. 12, line 33- col. 13, line 65 ; col. 14, lines 11- 65 ).

However, Hilbert does not specifically disclose a capacitor coupled across the power input and the power return. ; and a first resistor having a first end coupled to the power input and a second end to couple to a power source.

Art Unit: 2685

On the other hand, Ciccarelli et al, from the same field of endeavor, discloses an amplifier having an adjustable current source, which can be controlled to provide the requisite level of performance at reduced current consumption. The current source can be designed with active devices, which are selected based on the logic of the control signals for ease of interface. The bias current is adjusted to provide the requisite level of performance while reducing power consumption. (Figs. 3-5; cot. 4, lines 40- 67; cot. 6, lines 13- cot. 8, line 29; cot. 9, line 25cot. 10, line 40; figs. 11 A- 11 B, cot. 19, line 15- cot. 20, line 65). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the technique of Ciccarelli to the communication system of Hilbert in order to minimize power consumption.

Siwiak et al discloses in figure 4, an RF power amplifier 120 where a power supply voltage  $V_s$  is applied to the drain of FET 122, through an RF choke 123, and a capacitor 126 is disposed between the drain of the FET 122 and an impedance transformation network 129 (figs. 4-6; col. 3, line 1- col. 4, line 55; col. 5, lines 8-65). It is considered that the capacitors 126 and 206 in figures 4 and 6 are coupled across the power input and the power return. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the technique of Siwiak to the modified system of Ciccarelli and Hilbert in order to minimize power consumption.

Regarding claims 2- 5, Hilbert as modified discloses a circuit (fig. 8), comprising: a logic circuit (420 of fig. 8) wherein the logic circuit comprises a differential circuit; wherein the two logic gates each comprises an inverter (col. 11, lines 21-66).

Regarding claims 7 and 16, Hilbert as modified discloses a circuit (fig. 8), comprising: a logic circuit (420 of fig. 8) wherein the CMOS inverters each comprises a p-channel transistor having a source coupled to the power input, a gate, and a drain, and an n-channel transistor having a source coupled to the power return, a gate coupled to the gate of the p-channel transistor to form an input node, and a drain coupled to the drain of the p-channel transistor to form output node (col. 11, line 21- col. 12, line 32), the differential circuit further having a differential input comprising the input nodes for each of the CMOS inverters, and a differential output comprising the output nodes for each of the CMOS inverters ( col. 13, line Scot. 14, line 60 ).

Regarding claim 8, Hilbert discloses a circuit (fig. 8), comprising: logic means (809 of fig. 8) for performing a logic function (col. 11, line 21- col. 12, line 13); charge means (805 or 806 of fig. 8) for storing a charge across the logic means; and isolation means (814 of fig. 8; col. 12, line 33- col. 13, line 65; col. 14, lines 11- 65).

However, Hilbert does not specifically disclose an isolation means for isolating the charge means from a power source.

On the other hand, Ciccarelli et al, from the same field of endeavor, discloses an amplifier having an adjustable current source, which can be controlled to provide the requisite level of performance at reduced current consumption. The current source can be designed with active devices, which are selected based on the logic of the control signals for ease of interface. The bias current is adjusted to provide the requisite level of performance while reducing power consumption (figs. 3-5; col. 4, lines 40- 67; col. 6, lines 13- col. 8, line 29; col. 9, line 25col. 10, line 40; figs. 11 A- 1113, col. 19, line 15- col. 20, line 65) Therefore, it would have been obvious

Art Unit: 2685

to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the technique of Ciccarelli to the communication system of Hilbert in order to minimize power consumption.

Siwiak et al discloses in figure 4, an RF power amplifier 120 where a power supply voltage  $V_s$  is applied to the drain of FET 122, through an RF choke 123, and a capacitor 126 is disposed between the drain of the FET 122 and an impedance transformation network 129 (figs. 4-6; col. 3, line 1- col. 4, line 55). Furthermore, the bias control logic circuit 310 has an input 312 for receiving input data on the power cutback required, and four outputs 328, 330, 332 and 334, coupled to resistors 308, 322, 324, and 33, respectively, for providing the bias voltages required to bias one or two stages of amplification (col. 5, lines 8-65. Since the capacitors 126 and 206 can be applied across this logic circuit, they are considered as isolation means for isolating the charge means from a power source. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the technique of Siwiak to the modified system of Ciccarelli and Hilbert in order to minimize power consumption.

Regarding claims 9-10, Hilbert as modified discloses a circuit (fig. 8), comprising: a logic circuit (420 of fig. 8) wherein the charge means comprises a capacitor (805 or 806 of fig. 8); and the isolation means comprises a first resistor (814 of fig. 8) to couple a first end of the capacitor to the power source (col. 12, lines 26 32), a second resistor (815 of fig. 8) to couple a second end of the capacitor to a return line for the power source (col. 12, line 33- col. 13, line 65; col. 14, lines 11- 65).

Claims 11-15 contain similar limitations addressed in claims 2-7, and therefore are rejected under a similar rationale.

Regarding claims 17-18, Hilbert discloses a method (fig. 3 and fig. 8) of suppressing noise during the switching of a differential circuit having differential inputs and outputs, comprising: charging a capacitor (805 or 806 of fig. 8) through a resistor (814 of fig. 8; col. 11, line 21- col. 12, line 13); applying a signal transition at the differential inputs (col. 9, line 22col. 10, line 66); and circulating charge between the differential outputs (col. 12, lines 26 -32); compensating for loss of the charge on the capacitor during the circulation of charge ( col. 12, line 33- col. 13, line 65 ; col. 14, lines 11- 65 ).

However, Hilbert does not specifically disclose the features of circulating charge between the differential outputs through the capacitor; compensating for loss of the charge on the capacitor during the circulation of charge by recharging the capacitor through the resistor.

On the other hand, Ciccarelli et al, from the same field of endeavor, discloses an amplifier having an adjustable current source, which can be controlled to provide the requisite level of performance at reduced current consumption. The current source can be designed with active devices, which are selected based on the logic of the control signals for ease of interface. The bias current is adjusted to provide the requisite level of performance while reducing power consumption (figs. 3-5; col. 4, lines 40- 67; col. 6, lines 13- col. 8, line 29; col. 9, line 25-col. 10, line 40; figs. 11 A- 11 B, col. 19, line 15- col. 20, line 65). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the technique of Ciccarelli to the communication system of Hilbert in order to minimize power consumption.

Siwiak et al discloses in figure 4, an RF power amplifier 120 where a power supply voltage  $V_s$  is applied to the drain of FET 122, through an RF choke 123, and a capacitor 126 is

Art Unit: 2685

disposed between the drain of the FET 122 and an impedance transformation network 129 (figs. 4-6; col. 3, line 1- col. 4, line 55). Furthermore, the bias control logic circuit 310 has an input 312 for receiving input data on the power cutback required, and four outputs 328, 330, 332 and 334, coupled to resistors 308, 322, 324, and 33, respectively, for providing the bias voltages required to bias one or two stages of amplification (col. 5, lines 8-65). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the technique of Siwiak to the modified system of Ciccarelli and Hilbert in order to minimize power consumption.

Regarding claim 19, Hilbert as modified discloses a method (fig. 8) of suppressing noise during the switching of a differential circuit having differential inputs and outputs (col. 9, line 22- col. 10, line 66), comprising clocking the differential circuit after a transition of the signal at the differential output, the circulation of the charge being initiated by clocking the differential circuit, the resistor and capacitor having a time constant that is less than half the clocking frequency (col. 7, line 28- col. 8, line 67 ).

Regarding claims 20-22, Hilbert discloses an integrated circuit (fig. 4 and fig. 8), comprising: a differential circuit having a power input (col. 6, lines 10-65); the differential circuit further comprises a power return (col. 7, line 28- col. 8, line 67; col. 11, line 21- col. 12, line 13).

However, Hilbert does not specifically disclose an inductor having a first end coupled to the power input and a second end to couple to a power source; and a second inductor having a first end coupled to the power return and a second end to couple to a power source return.



On the other hand, Ciccarelli et al, from the same field of endeavor, discloses an amplifier having an adjustable current source, which can be controlled to provide the requisite level of performance at reduced current consumption. The current source can be designed with active devices, which are selected, based on the logic of the control signals for ease of interface. The bias current is adjusted to provide the requisite level of performance while reducing power consumption (figs. 3-5; col. 4, lines 40- 67; col. 6, lines 13- col. 8, line 29; col. 9, line 25col. 10, line 40; figs. 11 A- 11 B, col. 19, line 15- col. 20, line 65). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the technique of Ciccarelli to the communication system of Hilbert in order to minimize power consumption.

Siwiak et al discloses in figure 4, an RF power amplifier 120 where a power supply voltage  $V_s$  is applied to the drain of FET 122, through an RF choke 123, and a capacitor 126 is disposed between the drain of the FET 122 and an impedance transformation network 129 (figs. 4-6; col. 3, line 1- col. 4, line 55; col. 5, lines 8-65). It is considered that the capacitor 206 and inductor 204 in figure 6 are coupled across the power input and the power source. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the technique of Siwiak to the modified system of Ciccarelli and Hilbert in order to minimize power consumption.

Regarding claims 23-26, Hilbert discloses a circuit (fig. 8), comprising: a differential circuit; and a current source (807, 808, 813 of fig. 8) having an output coupled to the differential circuit; and the current source comprises a transistor (801- 804 of fig. 8) having a drain coupled

to the differential circuit, a gate and a source, the capacitor being coupled between the gate and the source (col. 11, line 21- col. 12, line 62; col. 13, line 39- col. 14, line 60).

However, Hilbert does not specifically disclose a current source having an output coupled to the differential circuit, an input, and a capacitor shunting the input.

On the other hand, Ciccarelli et al, from the same field of endeavor, discloses an amplifier having an adjustable current source, which can be controlled to provide the requisite level of performance at reduced current consumption. The current source can be designed with active devices, which are selected based on the logic of the control signals for ease of interface. The bias current is adjusted to provide the requisite level of performance while reducing power consumption (figs. 3-5; col. 4, lines 40- 67; col. 6, lines 13- col. 8, line 29; col. 9, line 25-col. 10, line 40; figs. 11 A- 11 B, col. 19, line 15- col. 20, line 65). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the technique of Ciccarelli to the communication system of Hilbert in order to minimize power consumption.

Siwiak et al discloses in figure 4, an RF power amplifier 120 where a power supply voltage  $V_s$  is applied to the drain of FET 122, through an RF choke 123, and a capacitor 126 is disposed between the drain of the FET 122 and an impedance transformation network 129 (figs. 4-6; col. 3, line 1- col. 4, line 55; col. 5, lines 8-65). It is considered that the capacitors 126 and 206 in figures 4 and 6 are coupled across the power input and the power return.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the technique of Siwiak to the modified system of Ciccarelli and Hilbert in order to minimize power consumption.

***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-26 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marceau Milord whose telephone number is 703- 306-3023. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 10-8.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward F Urban can be reached on 703-305-4385. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703- 872-9314 for regular communications and 703- 872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-0377.



MARCEAU MILORD  
December 29, 2002

  
EDWARD F. URBAN

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600